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communication destination party information based on information concerning a communication destination party input via the input/output means, a subscriber number of the communication destination party, and a country where the communication destination party is a subscriber of the telephone service, and for registering the communication destination party information to the communication destination party memory means.

31. (New) A portable communication device according to claim 25, wherein the communication destination party information memory means has a country registration area provided thereto in advance for every country identifying information so that communication destination party identifying information and a subscriber number are stored in the country registration area of a corresponding country.

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-9, 11-21, and 23-31 are pending in this application. Claims 10 and 22 are cancelled and claims 25-31 are added by the present response. Claims 1-10, 12-14, 17-19, 23, and 24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. patent 5,305,372 to Tomiyori. Claims 11 and 20-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Tomiyori. Claim 15 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Tomiyori. Claim 16 was objected to as dependent upon a rejected base claim, but was noted as allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of its base claim and any intervening claims.

Initially, applicant gratefully acknowledges the early indication of allowable subject matter in Claim 16.

With respect to the indication of allowable subject matter in Claim 16, the present response sets forth new Claims 25-31 for examination. New independent Claim 25 is a

combination of original Claims 1, 13, and 16. That subject matter is believed to be allowable, although it deviates somewhat from the subject matter in original dependent Claim 16, and particularly as new Claim 25 does not include the limitations of original Claims 14 and 15. The other new Claims 26-31 are dependent on new independent Claim 25, and are also believed to be allowable.

Addressing now the rejections of the other claims over Tomiyori, those rejections are traversed by the present response.

It is initially noted that each of independent Claims 1, 4, 23, and 24 is amended by the present response to clarify features recited therein. Specifically, independent Claim 1 now further recites the "using country information recognizing means" operating "for automatically recognizing, without a user input command, a country where the portable communication device is connected to the telephone circuit". The other independent claims are similarly amended. Independent Claim 8 is not so amended because independent Claim 8 recites that the country information is obtained "from information sent from the base station". The above-noted features recited in the claims are believed to distinguish over the teachings in Tomiyori.

More specifically, Tomiyori is directed to a cellular telephone that includes a speed dialing memory and a current location memory. However, Tomiyori requires a user input command to enter a country code. Specifically, Tomiyori states "In FIG. 6, it is shown that controller 5 is programmed to allow the mobile unit owner to make a registration of a country in which the unit is being used. When the user wishes to make a country registration, *he operates a country key 23 on the keypad to initiate the registration* (step 50)".²

Thus, in Tomiyori a user must input a command to indicate a country in which the cellular telephone is being utilized.

² Tomiyori at column 3, lines 42-47. (Emphasis added).

In contrast to Tomiyori, in the above-noted claims as currently written, the country information is recognized automatically, without a user input command. In the present invention, that automatic operation can occur in several ways, such as by recognizing a part of a communication module, as specifically stated in dependent Claim 16, or by information sent from a base station, as recited in independent Claim 8. However, in the above-noted claims the country where the portable communication device is connected to the telephone circuit is automatically recognized without a user input command, which clearly differs from the teachings in Tomiyori.

In such ways, each of the above-noted claims is believed to distinguish over the teachings in Tomiyori.

As no other issues are pending in this application, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and it is hereby respectfully requested that this case be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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IN THE CLAIMS

--1. (Amended) A portable communication device for communication via a connected telephone circuit, comprising:

communication destination party information memory means for storing communication destination party information including communication destination party identifying information of a communication destination party, subscriber number information of the communication destination party, and country identifying information for identifying a country where the communication destination party is a subscriber of telephone service;

input/output means for displaying, in response to a user's operation, a list of the communication destination party identifying information stored in the communication destination party information memory means;

calling processing means for dialing a call to a communication destination party selected from the list of the communication destination party identifying information displayed by the input/output means; and

using country information recognizing means for recognizing means for automatically recognizing, without a user input command, a country where the portable communication device is connected to the telephone circuit;

wherein

the calling processing means automatically converts, [upon] as necessary, the subscriber number information stored in the communication destination party information memory means into a subscriber number suitable for a domestic or international call based on

a result of comparison between the using country information recognized by the using country information recognizing means and the country identifying information of the communication destination party selected as a call destination, and dials a resultant subscriber number.

4. (Amended) A portable communication device for communication via a connected telephone circuit, comprising:

communication destination party information memory means for storing communication destination party information including communication destination party identifying information of a communication destination party, subscriber number information of the communication destination party, and country identifying information for identifying a country where the communication destination party is a subscriber of a telephone service;

input/output means for displaying, in response to a user's operation, a list of the communication destination party identifying information stored in the communication destination party information memory means;

calling processing means for dialing a call to a communication destination party selected from the list of the communication destination party identifying information displayed by the input/output means; and

using country information recognizing means for automatically recognizing, without a user input command, a country where the portable communication device is connected to the telephone circuit;

wherein

when making a call, the calling processing means is able to change a selected subscriber number information, based on judgement that the subscriber number information of the communication destination party, stored in the communication destination party information memory means, is not usable for dialing a call, the judgement being based on

comparison between the using country information recognized by the using country information recognizing means and the country identifying information of the communication destination party selected as a called party.

10. (Canceled).

22. (Canceled).

23. (Amended) An automatic calling method employed in a portable communication device for communication via a connected telephone circuit, comprising:

a communication destination party candidate displaying step of extracting communication destination party identifying information from communication destination party information memory means and displaying a list thereof, said memory means stores the communication destination party information including communication destination party identifying information of a communication destination party, subscriber number information of the communication destination party, and country identifying information for identifying a country where the communication destination party is a subscriber of telephone service;

a comparison step of comparing country identifying information corresponding to a communication destination party selected from the list of communication destination party identifying information displayed at the communication destination party candidate displaying step, and using country information specifying a country where the portable communication device is connected to the telephone circuit, the country information being automatically recognized, without a user input command; and

a calling step of automatically converting, [upon necessity] as necessary, the subscriber number information of the communication destination party selected, into a subscriber number suitable for a domestic or international call based on a result of comparison made at the comparison step, and making a call.

24. (Amended) An automatic calling method employed in a portable communication device for communication via a connected telephone circuit, comprising:

a communication destination party candidate displaying step of extracting communication destination party identifying information from communication destination party information memory means to display a list thereof, said memory means stores the communication destination party information including communication destination party identifying information of a communication destination party, subscriber number information of the communication destination party, and country identifying information for identifying a country where the communication destination party is a subscriber of telephone service;

a comparison step of comparing country identifying information corresponding to a communication destination party selected from the list of communication destination party identifying information displayed at the communication destination party candidate displaying step, and using country information specifying a country where the portable communication device is connected to the telephone circuit, the country information being automatically recognized, without a user input command; and

a calling step of displaying, for editing, the subscriber number information when a judgement is made based on a result of comparison made at the comparison step, that the subscriber number information of the communication destination party, stored in the communication destination party information memory means, is not usable intact for dialing a call, and making a call using a resultant subscriber number edited.

25-32. (New).--